



Toward Democratic World Federation

Publication of the Democratic World Federalists

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Winter 2009

DEAR PRESIDENT OBAMA

At your Lincoln's Day address in Springfield, Illinois on 12 February 2009, you reminded Americans of the need for building and maintaining a union out of various political units. Also on that day -- the birthday of Charles Darwin -- you spoke of the importance of developing a positive science for the benefit of the people, to overcome the anti-science cults which amazingly still flourish in the U.S.A. in the 21st Century.

You reminded the nay-sayers that **governments are provided for the people** -- not just for the fat cats -- to do things for the whole populace which cannot be done by individual persons alone. Recall "In Union there is strength," which certainly applied to the various American colonies that became states under a League of Friendship and Articles of Confederation. Fortunately, under the positive leadership of many of our forebears in drafting the Constitution, the U.S.A. gradually developed into a **democratic American federation**.

After the Bush/Cheney/neo-con policies that made the U.S. -- once the popular promoter of the Marshall Plan -- Public Enemy #1 in much of the world and a great embarrassment to many of our allies, you mentioned the need for America once again to become a leader of the world. However, it is time to visualize the world not just as a congeries of combative tribes and nations, but as the home of all humanity.

Recall, too, that after the disastrous World War II the people of Europe, under the stellar leadership of Monet, Schuman, Spinelli, and Adenauer, gradually built up the European Union.

As it moves in the direction of a **democratic European federation**, it has ended wars among its members and benefited Europeans as a whole.

Your speech at Berlin on 24 July 2008 (which we published in *Toward Democratic World Federation*) demonstrated that you acted, and were received as, a world leader. You spoke as "**a proud citizen of the United States, and a fellow citizen of the world.**" Consequently, after seeking to work with other *national* leaders to overcome world problems that countries cannot solve alone, it may be time to work with other *world* leaders like **Nelson Mandela, Jimmy Carter, the Dalai Lama, Mikhail Gorbachev, and Vlaslav Havel** to transform the United Nations to meet the needs of humanity, of the world citizens -- which *you* can represent -- in this 21st Century now and for the foreseeable future.

In recent decades, some politicians in the U.S.A., demonstrating avarice and disregard for the welfare of most people at home and abroad, purveyed the myth that the less government there is, the better. They have built a very powerful military-industrial complex (which President Eisenhower warned us about) that has been sucking up much of the national budget thereby helping bankrupt the United States.

After all that negativity, we need you to think positively for the benefit not only of Americans but also of all humanity. Please make that effort.

Sincerely,

John O. Sutter, Concerned Citizen of the U.S. and the World

REPORT on the UNITED FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE 4TH ASSEMBLY

by Fred Duperrault, D.W.F. Vice President

The United for Peace and Justice 4th Assembly convened in Chicago at the Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, 12-14 December 2008.

The general purposes of the Assembly were: 1) To update the Unity Statement; the Strategic Framework Statement; and the Program of Work plan; 2) To set the general agenda for the next 18 months; 3) To inspire and energize through comradery and fun, 4) To provide the option for member organizations to promote their causes with literature display tables; and 5) To provide opportunities for networking among the member organizations attending.

Debbie Metke, a DWF Board Member from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and I served as delegates from the Democratic World Federalists. We were elated when the assembly, by consensus, supported a short statement, added to the Strategic Framework Statement indicating the UFPJ's support for strengthening the United Nations to



make it more effective. However, because an amendment eliminated the phrases, '...restructuring the U.N....' and '...Call for a U.N. Charter Review Session...' our wording was not included in the document, the final phrase ended up somewhat weaker.

We had the most visible location in the room for our DWF literature table, so that hard-

ly any of the approximately 200 delegates could have failed to see our banner posted behind the table. Moreover, with a sign on the table that read, "Please SIGN this PETITION calling for U.N. CHARTER Review." Some 32 persons signed the petition.

Because of the discussion regarding the U.N. statement, the literature table, and our numerous responses to questions regarding DWF, Debbie and I feel that the DWF presence at the assembly was well worth the time, effort and resources spent.

Toward Democratic World Federation

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Democratic World Federalists is affiliated with the Coalition for Democratic World Government, the World Alliance for Transforming the U.N., and the World Federalist Movement. Views expressed in articles published in *TDWF* do not necessarily represent those of Democratic World Federalists. Articles may be republished so long as the issue and source of publication (*TDWF*) are mentioned. Readers' comments are welcome. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is 20 April 2009.

The Purposes and Objectives of Democratic World Federalists are:

A. To promote an understanding of the following principles:

Common Humanity The people of the world, as interconnected members of a common humanity, must recognize that the well-being and safety of anyone should be of concern to everyone.

Global Problems & Benefits The people are confronted by global problems, such as war and civil conflict, crimes against humanity and anarchy, large-scale poverty and disease, and degradation of the environment. These can be dealt with, and peace and the well-being of the people promoted, through enforceable world laws.

Sovereignty & Citizenship The people, as sovereign citizens, are inherently endowed with the authority and the duty to govern themselves, either directly or through elected representatives, on all levels of society and ultimately the world. As citizens, they should respect the rule of law, which their civic participation creates and legitimizes.

Good Government The government of all political units must be open, democratic, and accountable to the people and have effective legislative, executive, and judicial branches, with checks and balances.

Federation Planet Earth, with unity in its diversity, requires a democratic, federal system of government, where problems from local to global are dealt with by governments at the appropriate level.

Constitution A world constitution with a declaration of rights should be promoted by any means possible, e.g., restructuring and democratizing the United Nations, federating a number of regional unions, expanding a community of democracies, or building a new set of institutions of government through a world convention.

B. To develop an organization/movement without borders and spread its message throughout the world via contacts with other civil-society organizations, educational institutions, the media, lawmakers, and the general public.

FAREWELL AND HELLO

We say "Farewell" to Byron Belitsos and Bruce Kennedy, who have served on our Board of Directors since we World Federalists went independent in 2004. Byron, who edits a web publication, also wants to devote time to authoring a book.

We also say "Farewell" to two of the Grand Dames of World Federalism, who have been active in World Federalist organizations in the U.S. and internationally for decades. Both served on our Advisory Board since its formation in 2006. Cleo Michelsen, wife of Vince della Penna, turned 100 this January. Barbara Walker, whose devoted husband Bob passed away in 2008, will continue to work on education for the United Nations.

Elections to fill vacancies on our Board of Directors will take place at the D.W.F. Annual Meeting on 19 April 2009.

We welcome two new members of our Advisory Board from other countries: Francisco Plancarte of Guadalajara, Mexico (see last page) and Josep Ll. Ortega of Andorra, who led a world citizens e-mail group in the past and whose article appears on page 6.

RECOMMENDED READING

Because the subjects are far more complex than can be gone into detail in this publication, you may wish to read:

- The neo-con/Bush Doctrine, in the Project for the New American Century (PNAC) and its "Rebuilding America's Defenses" (2000)
- For predecessors to PNAC, see Jason Vest, "The Men from JINSA and CSP" in *The Nation*, 2 Sept. 2002, or go to www.thenation.com/doc/20020902/vest
- For the history and neo-fascist background of the neocons, see Andres Perez-Alonso, "Neoconservatism, the Israeli Lobby, and other Power Arrangements" (2005) at www.cassiopaea.org/cass/perez-alonso.htm
- Ilan Pappé, *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine* (2006)
- John J. Mearsheimer & Stephen M. Walt, *The Israeli Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* (2007)
- For Conn Hallinan, "Israel Treated Gaza Like Its Own Private Death Laboratory" in AlterNet, 13 Feb. 2009 go to www.alternet.org/story/126724

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What Kind of Government for Planet Earth?

by John O. Sutter

[The following is from an exchange with Gary Shepherd, Editor of United World, who appeared to favor a unitary system over a world federation.]

I realize you are not fond of the term “federal(ist).” Nor is World Citizen Troy Davis. However, I find it difficult to envision a system of governing the world without several levels of polities. The two revolutionary countries at the end of the 18th Century were the United States of America and the French Republic. The former changed from a number of separate colonies that became a league of autonomous states and then joined into an American federation. The latter did away with the particularistic duchies, marquis-doms, etc., many of which were based on feudal ethnicity. Forming new “departments” of roughly equal size helped break down the sub-national polities and presumably contributed to a more “French” national union in the unitary – rather than a federal – republic.

So how do you visualize your unitary world government to operate over the people in the various continents? In a unitary system, the central government appoints the governments at lesser levels. In a democratic federation, the citizens elect their legislatures at each level and eventually at the world level.

I gather that you feel that the nation-state system should be done away with. However, I am not sure of your rationale. If some of the present nation-states are dysfunctional, would you suggest making new districts that would be represented in the global parliament? As you know, in many American states the Congressional districts have been greatly gerrymandered. Fortunately, in 2008, the citizens of California approved a process whereby more equitable districts can be formed. In a global polity districts from which the citizens

would elect members of the global parliament could be formed and re-formed so that all the people of the world would be represented, unlike now where the minorities in many countries do not have the franchise.

I still have some faith in Emery Reves’ statement that the people are the basis of sovereignty and they have the ultimate authority to govern themselves by transferring powers to governments at higher and higher levels and ultimately the Earth. The trend in some countries like the U.K. and Indonesia is toward a devolution of powers of government to the provinces in a somewhat federal system.

However, at your convenience, I would appreciate learning more of how your unitary state would work.

In United World, Jan.-Feb 2009, Gary Shepherd responded:

Simply put, the major problem with federalism is that it attempts to maintain the current nation-state system and superimpose a global system on top of it, which is not practical. It is not individual nation-states that are dysfunctional, just as it was not individual slave-owners that were unjust. The entire nation-state system is dysfunctional, just as the entire system of slavery was unjust. The size and shape of nation-states is arbitrary, largely based on past wars. No amount of gerrymandering could come up with districts as disproportionate as the People’s Republic of China and the island of Nauru. One way to empower minorities, by the way, would be to have a bicameral legislature with one house representing geographic districts and the other representing ethnic groups, regardless of their location. As far as Emery Reves’ quote goes, in that regard we are in complete agreement.

ISRAEL'S ETHNIC CLEANSING OF PALESTINE & THE U.N.

“Plus ça change, plus c'est la meme chose”

Two World Federalist documents from 2002 are still relevant. One, partly drafted by Prof. Joseph Schwartzberg, was issued in the Spring by the head of the former World Federalist Association (U.S.A.), and the other was the product in July of the (global) World Federalist Movement. Despite the overwhelming support for both by their World Federalist members, a handful of American Zionists tried to thwart their acceptance. *Toward Democratic World Federation* succeeded in publishing both documents.

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Exceeding Regional Resolutions, Must be Addressed as a Global Crisis

The conflict between the State of Israel and the Arab population in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza is not only of major concern to the people of the region, but also poses a serious threat to world peace. **Until elementary canons of justice are applied to the region, and until all its inhabitants can be assured of a secure future, a durable peace cannot, I believe, be attained.** The State of Israel must, therefore, be recognized by its Arab neighbors within secure, internationally guaranteed borders, and a State of Palestine, in turn, must be guaranteed an economically and politically viable entity within secure, internationally guaranteed borders and recognized by Israel. Arabs displaced by previous wars must either be resettled in their former homes, or, where that is no longer a practical option, be assisted to settle in a secure environment elsewhere or otherwise compensated.

While welcoming President Bush's increasingly active role in addressing the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian population, **I am distressed by his administration's having demonstrated virtually no interest in supporting United Nations involvement in the region, much less in allowing it to play the prominent role that it rightfully should. Nor has our government insisted that past UN Security Council resolutions bearing on the region be honored by all concerned parties. Finally, our repeated use of the veto to override virtually unanimous UN decisions bearing on peace in the Middle East (among other issues) seriously undermines the authority of the United Nations. It is counterproductive and widely perceived as favoring one side over the other in the current conflict.**

The rule of law must apply equally to all nations and supplant the law of force in international affairs. Accordingly, we should, in my view, call upon the United States government and the United

Nations to promote, in accordance with international law, the following actions as expeditiously as circumstances permit:

1. Positioning an impartial, multinational peacekeeping force in the area of conflict to restore peace and to prevent or minimize violence between the Jewish and Arab inhabitants of the region;
2. Providing emergency aid for persons displaced by or injured in the recent conflict and funds for restoring the economic infrastructure of the West Bank and Gaza;
3. Supporting efforts within the Palestinian Authority to democratize their governance structure;
4. Sending an impartial fact-finding team, after an appropriate cooling-off period, to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza to investigate and report on known and alleged atrocities by and against both Arabs and Jews;
5. Establishing an international peace conference to create the conditions for permanent peace in the region; and,
6. Creating a Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Israel/Palestine similar to the one established in South Africa under the government of Nelson Mandela.

Additionally, we should, I believe, urge the United States to refrain from exercising its veto power in respect to relevant resolutions agreed to by overwhelming majorities in either the Security Council or the General Assembly.

Finally, in the event that any party to the conflict fails to honor relevant Security Council decisions, we should recommend application by the UN Security Council of appropriate economic and political sanctions consistent with Article 41 of the United Nations Charter.

John B. Anderson, President
World Federalist Association

W. F.M. RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL-PALESTINE

During the World Congress of the World Federalist Movement in London in July of 2002, Commission Three (whose title was a mouthful: “Peace, Human Security and Conflict Resolution and Transformation”) endorsed a resolution on Invoking the Rule of Law to Resolve the Arab-Israeli Conflict. Largely drafted by WFA member Gil Jonas of New York City, it was readily approved by the W.F.M. Congress at its plenary on the 15th chaired by Vice Chair Lucy Webster also of New York City.

The text, as recorded by the W.F.M., appears below. In addition there were two friendly amendments. Lucio Levi of Italy recommended that the two sister states become part of a democratic Middle Eastern federation. World Citizen Troy Davis emphasized not only that the goal should be two democratic states, but also that the peace process should be open, transparent and broadly participatory. (A fine-tuned version of the W.F.M. resolution was later submitted to the W.F.A.)

Noting World Federalist interest in promoting world peace through world law with justice; in promoting democratization throughout the world; in the responsibility of the world community through the United Nations to protect peoples at risk from crimes against humanity; and in empowering the United Nations as the central representative of the world community;

Whereas the application of the rule of law to conflict resolution is a World Federalist imperative; and,

Whereas the world community has established a substantial body of international law in respect to Palestine since 1919; and,

Whereas this body of law includes the League of Nations Covenant, the Palestine Mandate, the United Nations Charter and its Trusteeship Council obligations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1949 Geneva Conventions, as well as the 1949 Palestine Partition Plan and numerous Security Council resolutions, notably 242; and,

Continued on page 5

Whereas these and other assertions of international law in sum represent a commitment to the non-Jewish people of Palestine to achieve self-determination; and,

Whereas for eight decades the world community, as represented by the League of Nations and later by the UN Organization, has failed to fulfil that commitment during which the Palestinian people have gravely suffered physical harm, material deprivation and widespread humiliation; and,

Whereas the remaining lands promised to the Palestinians have been occupied by Israel for thirty- five years [now forty-one], resulting in chronic conflict which has been capable of igniting a regional war; and,

Whereas the Israeli Government in recent years has pursued a confiscatory settlement policy in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention; and,

Committed to maintaining the security and survival of the State of Israel, and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That the World Federalist Movement strongly urges the United Nations Security Council to assert its authority over the unresolved question of self-determination of the Palestinian people by

(a) Organizing an impartial, multilateral UN peacekeeping force to end the violence between the State of Israel and the people of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem and to interpose such forces as may be deemed necessary to prevent further conflict, including the prevention of terrorist acts upon civilians;

(b) Establishing a United Nations Transitional Authority to prepare the Palestinian territories for self-determination, including free elections, facilitation of a viable economic structure, and organization of the basic services required to run a modern state; and,

(c) Upon successful implementation of a general cease-fire and truce between the Palestinian and Israeli forces, the Security Council is called upon to direct the complete withdrawal of Israeli military forces from the Palestinian territories; and,

(d) Providing emergency aid for persons displaced by or injured in the recent conflict and funds for restoring the economic infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza; and,

Be It Further Resolved that the new independent Palestinian state and the Government of Israel be directed to negotiate under UN mediation the final adjustments to their borders as close to those in effect before 1967 as may be practicable, while simultaneously resolving the remaining issues between the two parties, such as the removal of settlements from Palestinian territory, the determination of fair compensation to those Palestinians who fled from their homes between 1948 and 1967, and the general access by persons of any religious affiliation to the Holy sites of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, etc. and,

Be It Further Resolved that the UN Security Council recommend that all UN Members make material contributions commensurate with their capabilities to the social, political and economic development of the new Palestinian state and its people, including to those refugees outside the territories of the forthcoming state; and,

Finally, once it is satisfied that it no longer faces serious threats to its existence or its security, Israel is called upon to fulfil its negotiated commitments in respect to borders, settlements, and refugee compensation, while the new Palestinian state is called upon to agree to permanent peace with its Israeli neighbor, and to exercise its utmost vigilance in interdicting any individuals or groups seeking to resume violent behavior towards Israel.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt was instrumental in converting the Allied nations fighting the German/Italian/Japanese axis into the "United Nations," presumably "to end the scourge of war." However, the formation of the U.N. Organization followed the template of the League of Nations with a General Assembly (instead of a plain Assembly) and a Security Council (instead of just a Council) of the more powerful countries. Not surprisingly, the U.N. as an effective instrument of governance was doomed from the outset, as the totalitarian Soviet Union under Stalin and the United States insisted that five of the "victors" of World War II be privileged to veto the decision of the majority.

Related to this, both have played the veto card. The Soviet Union cast most of the vetoes between 1946 and 1965. From 1966 to 2008 the United States cast 82 out of 147, the overwhelming number for the benefit not of Americans nor the World, but for Israeli hardliners, who were gradually ethnically cleansing Palestine of its people.

This reflected U.S. domestic politics, as President Truman famously said: "I am sorry gentlemen, but I have to answer to hundreds of thousands who are anxious for the success of Zionism. I do not have hundreds of thousands of Arabs among my constituents." The same could be said by all U.S. presidents since, except for the popular Eisenhower. In 2001 hardline Prime Minister Sharon exclaimed, "Don't worry about American pressure on Israel. We, the Jewish people, control America, and the Americans know it." Thus it was possible for AIPAC to be the only foreign lobby to skip registering; for President Johnson in 1967 and later politicians, including an Arizona Senator, to cover up the Israeli machine-gun, napalm, and torpedo attack that failed to sink the *U.S.S. Liberty* but caused 207 American casualties, while, Israeli forces wiped out the U.N. office and staff in Gaza. Thus it was possible, while the rest of the world looked on in horror, for the Israeli war-machine (with U.S.-made weapons) to slaughter about 1,400 Palestinians and destroy homes, government buildings, and a U.N. school and to shell (for two hours including chemical weapons) the U.N. headquarters where 700 civilians were sheltered, and then for the U.S. Congress to pass a reportedly AIPAC-drafted resolution saluting the Israeli offensive.

American pressure had also led to the disproportionate partition of Palestine approved by the United Nations in 1947, whereby 55 percent of the Mandate went to the minority, largely immigrant Jewish population, and the majority, indigenous Muslim and Christian population were relegated to small pieces of land. But the lion's share was not enough; Ben-Gurion and Begin, both immigrants from eastern Europe, insisted that their goal was to convert all of Palestine into Greater Israel, a goal that Israeli hardliners follow today.

U.S. foreign policy toward the U.N. and the Middle East for decades was controlled by "old-conservative" anti-U.N. senators led by a political despot, Jesse Helms. Meanwhile, neoconservatives from the Project for the New American Century, formed largely from the Jewish Institute for International Affairs and Frank Gaffney's Center for Security Policy, wrote what became the Bush Doctrine. They promoted U.S. domination of the world and Israeli domination of the Middle East, as they propagandized for the invasion of Iraq and Iran and anti-U.N. policies, and for Helms's protégé -- John Bolton -- to be U.S. ambassador to the U.N.

Once the greatest danger to the U.S. and world peace appeared to be the ideologues in Nazi Germany; then for four decades, those in

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UNITED NATIONS PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

On 5 November 2008 the **Senate of the Republic of Argentina** made history by issuing a declaration for the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA). This is the first national parliament in the world to do so. The Argentine Senate declared:

“1. Its support to efforts aimed at the creation and establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly of the United Nations in order to strengthen the effectiveness, transparency, representativeness, plurality and legitimacy of the resolutions of the institutions that compose the UN system.

2. Its absolute belief in the legitimacy of decisions taken as a product of participatory, pluralistic and democratic deliberation, a *sine qua non* condition of the effective implementation of policies that benefit our peoples.”

On 3 November 2008, the President of the **European Parliament**, Hans-Gert Poettering, proclaimed the European Parliament’s support for the UNPA as well. Poettering stated that the European Parliament had already supported the UNPA proposal 15 years ago “as one of the first parliamentary institutions in the world.” He further added that, “Today in times of globalization, it is much less justifiable than in the past to limit the democratic participation of the citizens of this world to the nation state. This is why we, as European Parliament, support ways and means to give the people a strong representation also at the global level.”

In addition, in 2007, the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development under Conservative chairman Kevin Sorenson recommended that “the **Parliament of Canada** should give favorable consideration to the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.”

UNPA would be an addition to the United Nations to allow national legislatures to participate in the decision-making powers of the United Nations. Eventually, the goal is to encourage worldwide direct election of UN representatives.

Perhaps the best real-world example of a multinational parliamentary body could be found in the European Parliament. Its 785 members are directly elected and possess limited but important powers in the European Union.

The idea of a worldwide parliamentary assembly was first raised at the beginning of the League of Nations in the 1920’s and has been supported by the World Federalist Movement since 1987. The Campaign for the Establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (CEUNPA), UNPA’s main advocacy organization, was founded in 2007 and already has the support of 150 NGOs and 550 parliamentarians from about 120 countries.

CEUNPA represents an in depth and immediately implementable plan for making our United Nations more accountable to the people it is supposed to serve. Expect the number of world leaders and organizations backing this movement to grow in the coming years.

--- Colin Campbell

Continued from page 5

Stalinist Russia. Can it now be the neo-cons, who infiltrated the Bush/Cheney regime, and the military-industrial complex? Should the Obama leadership clean house in the Departments of Defense and State and the National Security Council at home and then help transform the United Nations into a more democratic institution working for the benefit of all humanity? — John O. Sutter

ARGUMENTS AND THOUGHTS ON A WORLD FEDERALIST PARTY

by Josep Ortega of Andorra

First, it seems to me that world federalism and cosmopolitanism are quite fragmented along historical and geographical lines. There are major organizations with exemplary figures in them, but there are no one-world organizations that aggregate all world citizens and world federalists. This seems so unnatural to me that I have been trying to favor convergence among cosmopolitan organizations and world citizens for a number of years. I have not been alone in these efforts, but, again and again, something seems to stop them or at least take the energy out of them so they remain small and marginal, even in the context of the small and perhaps marginal cosmopolitanism movement.

Second, I believe current organization are good at providing static presence and showing intellectual discussion, but fail to provide opportunities for action to all world citizen activist around. By around I mean truly anywhere in the world, not only the USA and Europe.

Third, consequently, the little grassroot action is largely uncoordinated. There are many actions and demonstrations for a myriad causes, but I would say cosmopolitanism is scarcely among them.

Fourth, I also believe cosmopolitanism is losing ground to nationalistic forces around the world.

The cosmopolitan movement has its share of scholars, interest groups and think tanks. But it **needs to develop a truly global and encompassing political organization able to energize it, to aggregate people, to coordinate action, and to make all world citizen activists feel they are in the same boat, not each one alone or in his own national boat.** After all, we are asking nation-states to do precisely that.

What sort of organization can do this? Current interest groups, think tanks and academic networks don’t do it. We need something new. Could a world federalist party be it? I believe it would provide a new opportunity.

I can see the reasons for some of the objections presented by the last contributions to this discussion. However, I don’t mind very much if an American branch of a world federalist party prefers to support individual members of the Republican or Democratic party instead of running for presidential elections; perhaps this American branch can run for local elections somewhere. **But I would love to be in contact and coordinated with people around the world considering what strategies are best to promote world federalism and cosmopolitanism.**

It might be that a world party is not the appropriate solution, but then what else? I for one am not satisfied with the current situation of the cosmopolitan movement, that seems too often less than cosmopolitan. I would try new solutions in a creative way, but I would not leave things as they are except in frustration.

Perhaps there is no consensus that a world federalist party needs to be created, but perhaps those in doubt would accept not opposing those willing to try. A world federalist party cannot be made against the opinion of major current cosmopolitan organizations, but perhaps it can be made with those skeptical willing to witness the effort and join it if it succeeds.

Anyway, even if the project of a world federalist party fails, we would still be left with the contradiction and problems of national fragmentation of the cosmopolitan movement, and we would have to look for other solutions. [Josep Ortega, a new D.W.F. Supporter, can be reached at jllortega@gmail.com.]

Democratic World Federalists

World Peace with Justice through Democratically Enacted, Enforceable World Law

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speaking on

ARE THE UNITED NATIONS & INTERNATIONAL LAW INEFFECTIVE? LET'S TRANSFORM THE U.N.!

Sunday, 19 April 2009

At Golden Gate University

536 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94105

(between 1st and 2nd Streets / available to all public transit)

Program:

11:30 am Registration (Tickets will be held at the door)
 12:00 pm Luncheon
 Welcome by Roger Kotila, Chairperson
 Master of Ceremonies
 12:45 Announcements
 12:50 Introduction by John O. Sutter, President
 Presentation by Francisco Plancarte,
 followed by Q&A
 1:50 Intermission
 2:00 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
 (open to all interested persons)

Election of Board of Directors:

The Nominating Committee will present nominees for election
 (A) For 5 Directors, terms ending in 2012
 (B) For 2 Directors, terms ending in 2013
 (C) For Officers, 2009-2010
 - President
 - Vice President(s)
 - Secretary
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2009 GOOD GOVERNMENT LUNCHEON-LECTURE REGISTRATION

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ARE THE UNITED NATIONS & INTERNATIONAL LAW EFFECTIVE? IF NOT... LET'S TRANSFORM THE U.N.!

**Hear Francisco Plancarte speak at the 2009 D.W.F. Good Government Luncheon-Lecture
April 19th**

The United Nations under the Charter drafted at the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco 64 years ago was intended “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war..., to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights..., to [promote] respect for...treaties and international law...and better standards of life...” Yet, after hundreds of wars and after millions were killed, millions were wounded (often maimed), and millions more were displaced since 1945, and after eight years of disdain for the U.N. by the Bush/Cheney/neocon administration, isn't it time to invoke Article 109 to review the U.N. Charter?

Come hear the thoughts of Francisco Plancarte of Guadalajara, a founder of the World Alliance for Transforming the United Nations (WATUN).



ico and earned a Master's Degree in Comparative Jurisprudence from New York University, Mr. Plancarte works as a Mexican Corporate and Tax Lawyer. Since 2001 Mr. Plancarte has been Founder and President of “PLANETAFILIA, A.C.,” and since 2002 he has been President of a Plancarte foundation, which finances scholarships.

Long engaged in community service, he is a member of Rotary International and promoter of Rotarian Declaration for World Peace and the U.N. Millennium Development Goals.

A member of the Advisory Board of Democratic World Federalists, he is also a Councillor of the World Federalist Movement.

Don't miss Mr. Plancarte's talk at the D.W.F.'s 2009 Good Government Luncheon-Lecture, to be held on Sunday, 19 April, at Golden Gate

Having graduated from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico University in San Francisco. **See details inside.**

From the draft WATUN Mission Statement:

“To promote the UN Charter Reiew for [transforming the UN] ... to deal with global issues, such as peace and security, disarmament, sustainable development, adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international law, [and] preservation of the environment, under the principles of justice, freedom, democracy, rule of law, equity, self-determination and self-government, mutual cultural respect and religious diversity, international fellowship and cooperation.”

Toward Democratic World Federation
“World Peace with Justice through Democratically Enacted & Enforceable Law”

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“The nationalist not only does not disapprove of atrocities committed by his own side, but has a remarkable capacity for not even hearing about them” - **George Orwell**

